

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following section heading on page 1, before line 1:

### TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following section heading and paragraph on page 1, before line 2:

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 National Stage patent application of International patent application PCT/EP2004/003956, filed on April 14, 2004, which claims priority to German patent application DE 10318066.4, filed on April 17, 2003.

Please insert the following section heading on page 1, before line 3:

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following section heading on page 1, before line 13:

### DISCUSSION OF THE BACKGROUND

Please insert the following section heading and paragraphs on page 2, before line 1:

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a method of treating a surface of a paper comprising coating the surface of the paper with composite particles comprising a polymer and at least one finely divided inorganic solid in the form of finely divided inorganic solid particles having a weight average particle diameter of  $\leq 100$  nm.

The present invention is also directed to a method of treating a surface of a paper comprising coating the surface of the paper with an aqueous dispersion comprising a mixture of an aqueous polymer dispersion and at least one finely divided inorganic solid in the form

of finely divided inorganic solid particles having a weight average particle diameter of  $\leq 100$  nm.

Please insert the following section heading on page 2, before line 3:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following section heading on page 25, before line 1:

CLAIMS

Please replace the abstract on page 28 with the attached rewritten abstract.